

MILITARY CEREMONIES AT FORT McHENRY NM & HS

Based on the Special Park Use regulations and policies, military ceremonies may be allowed at Fort McHenry NM&HS. All permits are dependent on availability of space and staffing and whether the result can be accommodated under federal or NPS rules and regulations.

Location:

In order to limit impairment of the resource and not unreasonably interfere with visitors of the programs ongoing at Fort McHenry, military ceremonies fewer than fifty (50) people will take place in the Parade Ground inside the Star Fort or north of the Water Battery. All military ceremonies over fifty (50) people will take place south-east of the Star Fort outside the Historic Area.

Restrictions and requirements for military ceremonies include:

1. Chairs and tables are authorized in locations listed above but must be provided by the permittee.
2. No electric power is available. Only battery powered amplification is allowed or a small generator and must follow 36 CFR 2.12 "Audio Disturbances."
3. All equipment will be hand-carried to the Star Fort. The use of a hand cart is authorized.
4. All VIPs must be identified by rank, title, and name to the Permit Coordinator in the application.
5. Small tents or canopies will be considered but are not guaranteed.
6. Our gates open from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Labor Day through Memorial Day, and 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Memorial Day through Labor Day. NO EXCEPTIONS. Set up and break down of even must be between these hours.
7. Due to security concerns, all items must have a monitor remain with them at all times. Nothing is to be left alone. This includes the Education Room and any outdoor location.
8. All participant and event visitors must park in the overflow lot, which is the first left after entering the gate.

The Education Room is reserved if available. The Fire Marshal has stated that it holds a capacity of 100 people standing or 35 people with tables and chairs. The displays in the Education Room are not to be touched, moved, or leaned on. A monitor must remain in the Education Room at all times if any items are to be left in there during the outdoor ceremony. Light fare and drinks are allowed, but no use of open flame is authorized.

Change of date/location:

Once a permit has been signed by the permittee and the Superintendent, it is finalized. Any changes will result in a new permit and must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

Application:

Please fill out the Special Park Use application and send the completed document to FOMC_PERMITS@NPS.GOV. **The permit process takes three to four weeks. Please submit your application at least 30 days before your event.**

There is no guarantee of an approved permit. The permit will be reviewed by the Special Park Use Coordinator and the Superintendent's staff for approval.

